What is claimed is:

1. A method for driving a plasma display panel having a first substrate on which a plural of first electrodes and a plural of second electrodes are placed in parallel to each other, a plurality of display lines each being formed between one of said first electrodes and corresponding one of said second electrodes, and a second substrate on which a plural of third electrodes placed so as to face said plurality of first and second electrodes and formed in a manner that said plurality of said third electrodes is extended in a direction orthogonal to said plurality of said first and second electrodes, and a plurality of display cell placed at points of intersection of said plurality of said third electrode and said plurality of said first and second electrodes, said method comprising:

a step of applying a voltage having an inclined waveform which changes with time to said first electrodes or/and said second electrodes; and

a step of setting time of occurrence of discharge so that, in each of said display cells, time of occurrence of facing discharge between the first electrode or/and the second electrode to which said voltage having said inclined waveform is/are applied and the third electrode comes earlier than earliest time of occurrence of surface discharge between the first electrode and the second electrode corresponding to each other.

2. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 1, wherein setting is done so that an electric potential of a pulse having said inclined waveform changes to become lower

with time and an electric potential of said third electrode occurring when said pulse having said inclined waveform is applied is higher, for at least a partial period of time, than an electric potential of said third electrode occurring when a voltage of a pulse is applied before application of said voltage having said inclined waveform.

3. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 2, wherein a negative bias voltage is applied to said third electrode when a voltage of a pulse is applied before application of said voltage having said inclined waveform.

4. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 3, wherein, V(Tfsw), V(Tfm) and Vd2 (absolute value) are determined so that a following expression holds:

$$V(Tfsw) - V(Tfm) < Vd2$$

where V(Tfsw) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode is started, V(Tfm) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said third electrode is started, and Vd2 denotes a negative bias voltage to be applied to said third electrode.

5. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 3, wherein, V(Tfss), V(Tfm) and Vd2 (absolute value) are determined so that a following expression holds:

$$V(Tfss) - V(Tfm) < Vd2$$

where V(Tfss) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first

electrode at earliest time when intense discharge occurs, V(Tfm) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said third electrode is started, and Vd2 denotes a negative bias voltage to be applied to said third electrode.

6. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 2, wherein a positive bias voltage is applied to said third electrode while a voltage having said inclined waveform is being applied.

7. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 6, wherein, V(Tfsw), V(Tfm) and Vd3 are determined so that a following expression holds:

$$V(Tfsw) - V(Tfm) < Vd3$$

where V(Tfsw) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode is started, V(Tfm) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said third electrode is started, and Vd3 denotes a positive bias potential to be applied to said third electrode.

8. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 7, wherein said positive bias potential is applied at latest until time when said positive bias voltage reaches a voltage of start of discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode and, after that time, application of said positive bias voltage terminates.

9. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 7, wherein said positive bias potential is lowered after occurrence of discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode.

10. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 7, wherein said positive bias potential is at a same potential as a potential to be applied during a selection period during which displaying of a display cell is controlled.

11. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a step of setting a potential of said first electrode or said second electrode to which no voltage having said inclined waveform is applied so that a potential of said pulse having said inclined waveform to be applied to either of said first electrode or said second electrode changes to become lower with time and so that, start time of discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode, during a period while a voltage having said inclined waveform is being applied, comes later than start time of discharge between electrodes to which said voltage having said inclined waveform is applied and said third electrode.

12. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 11, further comprising a step of applying a voltage having said inclined waveform to said first electrode and a first voltage being lower than a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at last time of sustaining discharge to said second electrode.

13. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 12, wherein, V(Tfsw), V(Tfm) and Vsb (absolute value) are determined so that a following expression holds:

$$V(Tfsw) - V(Tfm) < Vsb$$

where V(Tfsw) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode is started, V(Tfm) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said third electrode is started, and Vsb denotes a potential difference between a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at last time of sustaining discharge and said first voltage.

14. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 12, wherein a voltage having said inclined waveform is applied to put said display cell into a non-display state after termination of a sustaining period during which light is emitted by said display cell.

15. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 1, wherein a voltage having said inclined waveform is applied to erase wall charges accumulated by application of a pre-discharging pulse following application of said pre-discharging pulse used to cause discharge of all display cells to forcedly occur.

16. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 1, wherein setting is done so that an electric potential of a pulse having said inclined waveform changes to become higher

with time and an electric potential of said third electrode occurring when said pulse having said inclined waveform is applied is lower, for at least a partial period of time, than an electric potential of said third electrode occurring when a voltage of a pulse is applied before application of said voltage having said inclined waveform.

17. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 16, wherein a positive bias voltage is applied to said third electrode when a voltage of a pulse is applied before application of said voltage having said inclined waveform.

18. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 17, wherein, V(Tfsw), V(Tfm) and Vd2 are determined so that a following expression holds:

$$|V(Tfsw) - V(Tfm)| < Vd2$$

where V(Tfsw) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode is started, V(Tfm) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said third electrode is started, and Vd2 denotes a positive bias voltage to be applied to said third electrode.

19. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 17, wherein, V(Tfss), V(Tfm) and Vd2 are determined so that a following expression holds:

$$|V(Tfss) - V(Tfm)| < Vd2$$

where V(Tfss) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first

electrode at earliest time when intense discharge occurs, V(Tfm) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said third electrode is started, and Vd2 denotes a positive bias voltage to be applied to said third electrode.

20. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 16, wherein a negative bias voltage is applied to said third electrode while a voltage having said inclined waveform is being applied.

21. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 20, wherein, V(Tfsw), V(Tfm) and Vd3 are determined so that a following expression holds:

$$|V(Tfsw) - V(Tfm)| < Vd3$$

where V(Tfsw) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode is started, V(Tfm) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said third electrode is started, and Vd3 denotes a negative bias potential to be applied to said third electrode.

22. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 20, wherein said negative bias potential is lowered after occurrence of discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode.

23. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to

Claim 7, wherein said negative bias potential is at a same potential as a potential to be applied during a selection period during which displaying of a display cell is controlled.

24. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a step of setting a potential of said first electrode or said second electrode to which no voltage having said inclined waveform is applied so that a potential of said pulse having said inclined waveform to be applied to either of said first electrode or said second electrode changes to become higher with time and so that, start time of discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode, during a period while a voltage having said inclined waveform is being applied, comes later than start time of discharge between electrodes to which said voltage having said inclined waveform is applied and said third electrode.

25. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 24, further comprising a step of applying a voltage having said inclined waveform to said first electrode and a first voltage being higher than a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at last time of sustaining discharge to said second electrode.

26. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 25, wherein, V(Tfsw), V(Tfm) and Vsb are determined so that a following expression holds:

$$|V(Tfsw) - V(Tfm)| < Vsb$$

where V(Tfsw) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first

electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said second electrode is started, V(Tfm) denotes a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at time when discharge between said first electrode and said third electrode is started, and Vsb denotes a potential difference between a voltage to be applied to said first electrode at last time of sustaining discharge and said first voltage.

27. The method for driving a plasma display panel according to Claim 25, wherein a voltage having said inclined waveform is applied to put said display cell into a non-display state after termination of a sustaining period during which light is emitted by said display cell.